

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the first full paragraph at page 8, i.e., paragraph [0026] with the following amended paragraph:

[0026] With reference now to FIGS. 8-9, taken in conjunction with FIG. 4, each surface 28, 30, 32 includes a pair of surface portions 44 which intersect along a median plane “m” intersecting each surface 28, 30, 32 at a large oblique angle “d” relative to each other. (FIG. 9) The preferred angle of intersection “d” ranges from about 160° to about 175°, most preferably 170°. The intersecting surface portions 44 thus provide an overall concave or hollow ground appearance to the respective surfaces 28, 30, 32. This concave effect provides significant advantages in passage of the needle 10 through tissue. Specifically, the reduction in cross-section of needled end portion 18 provided by the inclined surface portions 44 of each surface 28, 30, 32 significantly reduces tissue drag compared to a conventional flat sided triangular-shaped needle head.